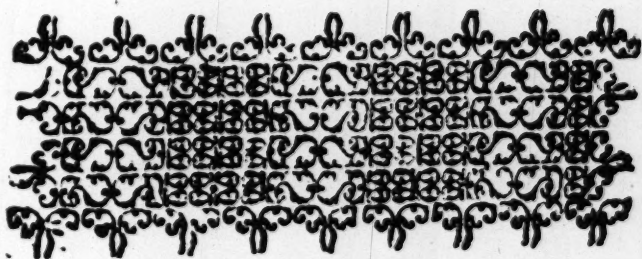


13
A Leter sent from the Prince
of Parma vnto the Borrowmaisters, Shes
rifes, and Magistrate of the Towne of Anwerpet
Also to the great Counsaile called Den
Breedem Raedt, *and the Fra-*
ternities of the
same.

Wherewith is adioyned the
Answer of the sayde Borrowmay-
sters, Sherifes, Treasurers, Receiver,
and counsaile, with the common con-
sent and generall aduow of the
Whole Towne.



Printed at London for
Edward Aggas.
1585.

A Letter from the Towne
 of Putnam unto the Honorable
 the Judges of the Towne of New York
 Sheweth the great trouble and
 the great loss and the
 damage of the
 Towne.

The Towne of Putnam
 is situated in the
 County of Westchester
 and is one of the
 most fertile and
 populous Townes in
 the State.

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Printed at London
 by J. Sturges
 1701

Alexander Prince of Parma
ma and Playfance, Gouvernor, Lieue-
tenant, and Captaine generall, &c.



Carely and welbeloued,
The tediousness of this
warre hath wrought a delat-
ion in this Countrey
both in the people, and ge-
uen you sufficiently to understand, and
as it were palpably to see the small
duty that you owe unto the shewers of
the same, who in respect of their own
passions and particuler interest, haue
procured the destruction of the poore
people. It is not therefore necessary
to repeat vnto you all such things as
haue passed since the beginning of
these troubles, such even the most ig-
norant haue evidently perceined that
the stirres vp of these waers bent not
their indeavour to the mainenance
of common comodity and quiet, but
rather to whatsoever tended to the
particularities of their dangerous de-
uises.

uises. For in case wee should begin to
rip by their dealings wee should finde
first that the late of Orange sought no
other but a continuall conquest of all
things, and neuer cared for preserving
any one of these towns, but to have
the things among themselves. The like may we report
for your selves are so testifie how they
purposed to extirpate your wives and
children in recompence of such and so
many honours as you framed your
selves to heape upon them. Now that
God hath ben served in calling out of
this world as well the one as the other,
and that thereby you doe on the one
side find your forces decay, and on the
other do perceiue your things greates
power together. With such happy suc-
cesse as it pleaseth God the Creator
daily to graunt vnto him to increase,
it were more then time for you to haue
some respect to your own safegard, &
the discommoditie of your poor people
oppressed

oppressed & environed with so many
mischiefs, to hereto in the end they
shall be forced to stoop: A Cause that
being moved by private zeal which
we have to the country, as well in
respect of the place from whence we
be defended, as also of such reasons
as we have raised in our mouth, we
have heretofore by our letters: endeav-
red to represent unto you, even as well
to you particularly, as also generally
to al other & famous gentlemen such
manner as in God our our transac-
ses did unto us some good expedient
for the relief of the whole country
to peace and quietness, but in as much
as the lords of the land and others (who
sought only by the destruction of the
country to be able to offend innocent
to intrude themselves into the govern-
ment and dominion of the same) did
wickedly detain & suppress our said
letters, we thought it good now for a
final conclusion to write yet this one
unto

39771

into you, whether we desire you with
 alfeuerce & as far as possible to take prey
 upon your toines, children, & desolate
 countre. Once againe call to remem-
 brance & loke back upon such self and
 felicitie as euery man heretofore did en-
 ioy under the obedience of the aposto-
 licke, & contrariwise consider of the de-
 struction and extremitie wherunto at
 this present your countrey is reduced,
 which yet daily (if the war continue)
 will more & more increase, thus & very
 tipe & bittermost periode of the same.
 Wherefore stop your eares against the
 lying inuentions & base persuasions
 of those which by malitious fees you
 with this error of mistrust of the good-
 nesse & sinceritie of the king your ma-
 iestie pince, which are the leges such
 that notwithstanding the injuries be-
 done & hard to digest, yet doth he not
 stand upon the, but offereth you peace
 & perpetual obliuion. Furthermore in
 case you be disposed, according to the
 desire

benesse of more then half your Binge-
 nes of Antwerpe (as by such aduertise-
 ments as dayly and honerly from all
 parts we do vnderstand) to enter com-
 munication & parlie, we do promise ye
 that for our parts we will in such wise
 concurre with you in whatsoeuer ho-
 nestly and reasonably you maye pro-
 pound, that you shall effectually per-
 ceaue that wee bee rather led by a fa-
 therly affection and vnfayned good
 will & we beare to your private bene-
 fits and tranquillitie, then any other
 our own interest and particuler passi-
 on, & misse of the successe of our
 enterprises. whereas contrariwise if
 you do purpose to be obstinate & sub-
 borne, your selues will procure & in-
 payring of all conditions of reconcili-
 ation: furthermore perceiving that our
 selues are altogether blamelesse in the
 shedding of so much innocent blood,
 as also of whatsoeuer calamities may
 hereafter ensue. To the end therefore
 that

that hereafter no man pretende cause
of ignorance of this our good will to-
gether with suche offers as wee make
unto you, we do write our Letters to
the same effect. unto the great Coun-
saile called Den Breeden Raede, and o-
ther the fraternities: beseeching the
Creator so to touch the harts of those
that may do most among you, that the
wealth & quiet which you are hereby
to hope for, maye according to our
hopps shortly ensue. And so praying the
Lord to haue you most dearlie & most
beloued in his holy & worthy protecti-
on, we cease from our Campe at Sm-
broock this 13. of Nouemb. 1584.

Signed Alexander, and somewhat
lower, Garnier. The superscription,
To our dearly and welbeloued the Bor-
rowmasters, Sherifes, and Counsaile, of
the towne of Antwerp.

Should I muche muche to muche
to muche to muche to muche to muche
to muche to muche to muche to muche
to muche to muche to muche to muche

The Answer, made by the
schollers of the said school



In which; your highness
letters of the 11. of
this month, respect
ing the petition of the
magistrate of Denme
of that country, is the

great complaint of this town have
bene revealed & read, as well by our
College, as by all the members of our
town, in the great church of St. James
church, where it is that our magis
trates of our town have resolved
for themselves to shew your highness
in answer thereto, that the petition to
be made that we should consider of the
emendation of the same, have bene proce
ded in by us almost a year, we have
accepted of very good parts proce
ding from your highness good affec
tion that you beare to these countries;
which you do wille to bee reduced to
some better quietnesse, as our letters
doe

Do also hartily Desire the same, and in
 consideration thereof do most humbly
 thanke you. But under your correcti-
 on, it seemeth that your highnesse are
 not sufficiently enformed of the true o-
 riginall and fountaine of this warre,
 for it is manifest to all the world that
 against our willes, and to our greate
 greefe we were forced thereto by the
 driftes and practises of those, who for
 their owne private purposes, and to
 the end to establish in these countries
 a dominion in effect more than real,
 haue vnder pretence of religion, with
 their sinister informations procured at
 his Kings Maiesties hands (vnto whom
 as also to all other the high and migh-
 ty Princes his predecessors, these coun-
 tries haue euermore borne as faithful
 and true obedience, as ever any other
 nation in the world did beare to their
 Prince) generally against al the inha-
 bitants of the country, of whatsoeuer
 estate, condition, age, or kind, the erec-
 tion

tion of the most horrible & cruell per-
secutions & worse than herde of or prau-
sed, together with infinite confiscati-
ons of goods, proscriptions, banish-
ments, and bloody executions, by fire,
sword and halter, against al sortes of
poore, honest, and innocent people, who
euen vnbearde in their iust & lawfull
defence, haue ben without imposition
of any crime condemned, only bring-
thring together to pray and call vpon
our God, through our onely medi-
atour Iesus Christ, according to his
owne word and commaundemente:
wherevpon contrary to the treaties,
agreements and edictes, so firmitie
made and published by the Ladye of
Parma, your Highnesse mother, with
the aduoke and consente of the whole
counsaile of estate, yea euen in his
name, vnder his authoritie and seale,
haue ensued such tyrannicall execu-
tions by the late Duke of Alua, and the
Spaniards, not against the pope com-
mings

wrongs only, but also against the prin-
 cipall governours, & ords, & couns. &
 Nobles of þ country, of whom his ma-
 jestie had receaved most notable ser-
 vice; & manifest infringing of al right
 customs & privileges, & more than by
 al Princes of these countries: & subver-
 sion of al seats of Justice, which have
 bene committed unto such men: as by
 all auncient lawes & privileges of the
 countrie, were utterly incapable of þ
 same. The raising of divers facts, and
 intolerable, brutish & unlawful exac-
 tions, together with the utter oppres-
 sion of all þ liberties of þ whole coun-
 trie, which things being so notorious-
 ly committed against al ordinary forme
 of Justice, could not possibly bring
 forth any other fruite then this mis-
 erable war which have overwhelmed
 us in this floude of mischiefs & sea of
 calamities. We do therefore beseeche
 your highnesse to beleve that we ne-
 ver entred into this war of any plea-
 sure

ture, neither by the motion or perswa-
 sion of the late Lord the D. of Orange
 of famous memory, who came not he-
 ther, but at the instant request of the
 estates, as well of the Bishops, as of
 the Nobles & commons, neither usurped
 any other authority then with greate
 importunity was layd vpon him. But
 that of mere extremitie, and inuisi-
 ble necessitie we were forced and con-
 strayned to take Armes, and to
 enter into these Contentions, whereof
 we desire nothing in this worlde,
 more earnestly, then some good end
 by a happye peace and generall tran-
 quillitie.

We doe also most humblye thanke
 your Highnesse for such Parley as at
 this presente you doe offer vs the fru-
 ition of, and can not sufficiently com-
 mend & extol your magnanimity, who
 hauing more then any other Gover-
 nor your predecessors, made vse of
 your

your bestue and valiaunce in armes;
 Do neuerthelesse so cartrously offer to
 accompany the same with all gentle-
 nesse and clemency: a bestue undoubt-
 tedly most commendable, even in the
 greatest princes and Monarchs. For
 that hauing before time ben thus per-
 swaded of your highnesse, if we could
 haue bene certefied that you had suf-
 ficiently ben authorisid to haue gra-
 ted vnto vs whatsoeuer according to
 your wisdom & discretion, you had
 knowne necessary for the establishing
 of a good and perfite peace, we would
 neuer haue so long delayed the com-
 mitting of our selues into your protec-
 tion: neyther would we haue soughte
 to enter into any other communicati-
 on and conditions then your high-
 nesse of your own discretion, together
 with your clemencie & courtesie shold
 haue thought reasonable, as nothing
 doubting but that willingly we wold
 haue followed & moued the king like-
 wise

will to follow the path of the people
 and commendable examples of other
 the great kings and princes, his ex-
 cellencies, who in the late burning
 have nearly searched out the roots of
 the mischief, have found it impossible
 to attain to the perfect cure thereof,
 to the maintaining of their subjects
 in a constant peace & firm quietness,
 accompanied with a faithful love &
 obedience to their superiors, without
 granting them liberty of their reli-
 gion, whereof at all times they offered
 to give account to any suspected or
 not partial judges, in all free admi-
 nistrations, nobles. For in those
 times they found the especial and
 most dangerous remedy for all these
 miseries & content in moderate con-
 sidering with the law & justice
 of their subjects, as well as
 by the examples of the most
 our righte & famous of late
 memory Charles the 5. Ferdinand and
 Maxe

Maximilian in Germany, also of 8 most
Christian Kings in France & the Kings
of Poland. In their Dominions. But
when as by minute testimonies & evi-
dence by public Declarations which your
Majesties have made unto us, we have
certainly advertised & it lay not in your
power to dispose of 8 point, which
nevertheless is the only ground prin-
cipall pillar whereupon this peace
may both consist, & that the King
finding himself subject to the Spanische
Inquisition, & the Pope of Rome's com-
mandments, had neither authority nor
liberty to grant to us Christian sub-
jects the same which the Pope & the
Duke Italian Princes doe permit to the
Jehowes & Turkes & without which
it is utterly impossible to turne from
the people a carnall course of desires
of 8 countries, we took our selves not
at liberty to arraigne unto any thing &
might have our assured rest, the same
necessity which forced us to enter in

to these wars, did also continue us to
 continue the same, thereby to defende
 ourselves from so intolerable & toll-
 ked oppression, to suffer infinite most
 humble supplications, petitions, de-
 clarations & protestations as well by
 writing as by our deputies sent into
 Spain, besides the manifold interces-
 sions & mediations of divers christi-
 an kings & princes in vaine protested
 for the space of 20 yeares or more, we
 were finally compelled to have our re-
 course to foraine powers: And in this
 present pondering the great & singular
 wrongs, equitie & moderation wher-
 by the most christian King both main-
 tain his subjects as well of the one as
 the other religion in all red & requi-
 sitis, & finding also our selves in such
 want & necessity, we cannot doubt to
 your highnes, but must needs give ye
 to understand & al the united princi-
 ces which are confederat with us by
 a general & vniuersal resolution haue
 alrea-

already had recourse to the most chri-
 stian Majesty, & most humbly have
 besought him to take our cause in hand,
 & as his subjects to receive vs into his
 protection, to y^e end to defend vs from
 so extreme rigor & crueltie: wherein he
 hath given vs so courteous audience &
 good hope that according to the dutie
 wherein solemnly & generally we all
 stand now bound unto him, it is no lon-
 ger in vs to enter into any communica-
 tion wth Charles y^e may neuer so little
 be prejudicial to our offer & promise:
 vnles we wold willingly incur a just
 reproch of the greatest vnitednes
 & ingratitude in the world. Wherunto
 as we are but one member of the sayd
 generaltie, also y^e by solenne oath we
 have bound our selues not to enter in-
 to any pacie or treatie of peace with-
 out the general consent & agreement of
 al others y^e vnited prouinces, we can-
 not, though we wold, accept your
 highnes offer before we haue obtay-
 ned

and the content and good to ill and back
 of them, as of the sayd content of the
 space in the copye hereunto annexed
 most humbly desire your Highnesse
 accepting to this our humble request
 for a clearyng of which the same you shal
 see better us; it may please your Highnesse
 to consider that before our under into the
 said office doe according to our duty
 send your highnesse letters to the said
 desired person, a hundred and twenty
 agreed to do the same as the said
 to his said office, as the said office, as
 the said office, as the said office, as
 as so much honor and respect to our
 most humble supplicants which in the
 their place have been selected, as we
 nothing without his Highnesse's tollerati-
 on, lest we should give him our cause
 to cast us off as deceitfull, inconsistent &
 unthankfull persons: And concerning
 the protestation which it pleaseth your
 Highnesse to make toward the ends of
 your letter, we do undoubtedly beleve
 that

that you will be content to be tamed of the
 thing in which you are bound. neither
 of such kind of thing as you have said for that
 the originall of this matter proceedeth
 from an other foundation: But both
 the one & the other should be pray for to
 consider that of such persons there are not
 many to be damned, as being entered
 only into the signification of the thing
 thing other than the maintaining of
 ourselves; but rather the children of life
 with the assistance of the free cal-
 ling upon the name of God; through
 which only we are entered into the Jesus
 Christ, & that we have for our part
 to hold in all things from the
 being of blood, in case it might be the
 place of our hoping in effect to perse-
 cute & moderate & clemency which
 in letters it pleaseth you to shew unto
 us; by saying the same likewise on
 your side, to the end that by the verifica-
 tion of this beginning, we may judge of
 the assurance of the rest: farther besee-
 ching

ching your highnes to beleue that we
do both admire & loue your vertues, &
withall our harts doe desire to yeelde
vnto you most humble seruice in what
louer our honor, Oath & conscience,
(which we praye that we may reserue
to God only) may any way permit.
Herebpon my L. most humbly kissing
your Highnes hands, we beseech God
to send vnto you whatsoeuer may be
most for your health. From An-
werpe this 23 of Nouember. 1584.

Of your Highnesse

The most humble at command. The
Borrowmaisters, Sherifes, Treasurers,
Receiuer & counsaill of the Town of An-
tuerp, hauing imparted the same to others
the members assembled at Breeden Raedt,
and the Fraternities of the same Towne.
By their decree and signed, B. Berlecom.
The Superscription,

To his Highnesse.